

Senate, March 18, 1998. The Committee on Public Safety reported through SEN. PENN, 23rd DIST., Chairman of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE STANDARDIZATION OF FIRE FIGHTER TRAINING PROGRAMS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 7-3231 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
3 thereof:

4 The commission shall:

5 [(a)] (1) Recommend minimum standards of  
6 education and physical condition required of each  
7 candidate for any fire fighter position;

8 [(b)] (2) Establish standards for a fire  
9 service training and education program, on a  
10 voluntary basis, and develop and conduct an  
11 examination program to certify those fire service  
12 personnel who satisfactorily demonstrate their  
13 ability to meet the requirements of the fire  
14 service training and education program standards;

15 [(c)] (3) Conduct fire fighting training and  
16 education programs designed to assist fire  
17 fighters in developing and maintaining their  
18 skills and keeping abreast of technological  
19 advances in fire suppression, fire protection,  
20 fire prevention and related fields;

21 (4) ESTABLISH UNIFORM MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR  
22 THE TRAINING OF FIRE FIGHTERS BY MUNICIPALITIES,

23 PROVIDE GUIDELINES FOR THE DELIVERY OF SUCH  
24 TRAINING AND DETERMINE THE AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF  
25 FUNDING FOR SUCH TRAINING;

26 [(d)] (5) Recommend standards for promotion  
27 to the various ranks of fire departments;

28 [(e)] (6) Be authorized to apply for, receive  
29 and distribute any federal or private funds or  
30 contributions available for training and education  
31 of fire fighting personnel; and

32 [(f)] (7) Submit to the Governor and Joint  
33 Legislative Management Committee of the General  
34 Assembly an annual report relating to the  
35 activities, recommendations and accomplishments of  
36 the commission.

37 STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS:  
38 Subparagraphs were renumbered as subdivisions for  
39 clarity and consistency.

40 PS COMMITTEE VOTE: YEA 22 NAY 0 JFS-LCO

\* \* \* \* \*

"THE FOLLOWING FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND BILL ANALYSIS ARE PREPARED FOR THE BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SOLELY FOR PURPOSES OF INFORMATION, SUMMARIZATION AND EXPLANATION AND DO NOT REPRESENT THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR EITHER HOUSE THEREOF FOR ANY PURPOSE."

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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT - BILL NUMBER sSB 444**

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| STATE IMPACT     | None, see explanation below               |
| MUNICIPAL IMPACT | None                                      |
| STATE AGENCY(S)  | Commission on Fire Prevention and Control |

**EXPLANATION OF ESTIMATES:**

STATE IMPACT: The passage of this bill would have no fiscal impact on the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control. The Commission already has the authority to establish minimum physical and educational requirements for fire fighters, and to establish standards for training programs that lead to certification. The sources of funding for fire fighter training are already known, and include both State and municipal funds.

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**OLR BILL ANALYSIS**

sSB 444

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STANDARDIZATION OF FIRE FIGHTER TRAINING PROGRAMS**

**SUMMARY:** This bill requires the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control to (1) establish uniform, minimum standards for town fire fighter training programs; (2) provide guidelines for delivering the programs; and (3) determine the source and amount of funding needed for them.

By law, the commission must already (1) recommend minimum physical and education standards for fire fighters and (2) establish standards for fire service training and education certification programs. It has adopted uniform, minimum standards for these programs. Programs that do not lead to certification do not have to meet these standards.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 1998

## **BACKGROUND**

### **The Commission**

The commission, which is in the Department of Public Safety for administrative purposes only, is primarily responsible for establishing fire education standards and programs and providing training for fire service personnel.

### **Current Programs**

The commission provides basic and advanced fire fighter training at the state fire academy and in-service training at firehouses. Basic training is also provided by (1) county fire chiefs associations at eight regional fire schools and (2) some departments in-house. Pursuant to law, the commission has adopted uniform, minimum standards for training certification programs. The state Department of Labor requires the quality of the local training certification programs to be at least equal to the commission's programs. Non-certification programs do not have to meet these standards. (But departments must still provide training and education commensurate with a fire fighter's duties and functions.)

The cost of training a fire fighter is shared by the state, which subsidizes the state fire academy and regional fire schools, and local fire departments, which pay tuition fees.

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Safety Committee

Joint Favorable Report  
Yea 22      Nay 0